Amnesty International Report about Human Rights Violation

2332. DR. BAPU KALDATE :
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent pamphlet put out by the Amnesty International's British chapter reproducing the diary of an unknown photographer about the human rights violation by security forces in Jammu and Kashmir which has been designed to mislead the people: and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government with regard to the glossing over the facts in its campaign on human rights violation in Jammu and Kashmir ignoring the human rights violation by terrorists and separatists elements ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Amnesty International, in its campaign journal for the British Section, had published the picture of a non-Kashmiri women under the caption "Kashmir—Where India has turned heaven into hell : First pictures from the besieged Srinagar". Government has conveyed its objections to Amnesty International in the strongest possible term, thrugh diplomatic channel, and sought their explanation. The said journal also carries a story titled "Unreal City" by an unnamed freelance Italian photographer containing vexatious allegations.

(b) The large and complex problem of terrorism being faced by India, with support from the across the border, is a well known fact. Organised terrorism has been consistently recognised in recent times as an activity aimed at the detruction of human rights, fundamental freedom and democracy, thretaning the territorial integrity and security of States, in various fora. However, it is often noticed that reports of Human Rights Organisations like Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch etc., for reasons not known underplay such large scale organised terrorism and do not bring out adequately the dimension of atrocities being perpetrated by militants and terrorists. Government has, from time to time, conveyed regrets to these human rights organisations in relation to reports and mentions on India containing inaccurate or distorted facts and to their tendency to gloss over the violation of human rights by territorists through depredetions perpetrated by them on innocent civilians.

Atrocities committed by personnel of Para Military Forces

2333. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the reports published in the Pioneer of November, 15 and Economic Times of November 25, 1994 relating to the atrocities committed by paramilitary forces, particularly the commandos from Punjab with allegations of gangrape at two places in Karimnagar, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the facts and necessary details;

(c) whether nine personnel from the Punjab squad had been suspended and sent back to their State for involvement in offences against women and what further action has been taken against each of these persons;

(d) what was the strength of the Punjab commandos posted on election duty in each of the States where elections were held recently and also in other States to curb terrorism and whether this was done with the prior approval of the Centre and the States concerned;

(e) whether any complaint were received from other States about the misbehaviour of Punjab commandos and their withdrawal particularly from Andhra Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh, if so, what are the details of such complaints; and

(f) what action has been taken against the persons involved in each of these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (f) The complaints received in this regard are under consideration and further details are awaited.

Repeal of TADA

2334. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH :
SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD :
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that there is a persistent demand from intellectuals and prominent social workers and organisations for the Repeal of the Terrorists and Disruptive Activities Act; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b) There have been some demand for repeal of TADA. A decision in this regard would be taken at appropriate time keeping in view all aspects and views expressed by Hon'ble M.Ps. as well as by other organisations